

Tuesday, December 19, 2006

**To:** Administrators and faculty of all private colleges, community colleges, and Regent Universities in Iowa who offer Teacher Education Preparation Programs or courses

**From:** Cross-Articulation Team of the Iowa Department of Education's Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant

**Co-Chairs:** Kathleen Van Steenhuyse, Dean of Social Sciences and Career Option Programs at Kirkwood;  
Dr. Jan Rohner, Mt. Mercy College Teacher Education Program

As you are probably aware, the Iowa Department of Education received a grant from the US Department of Education in October 2005, which has been awarded for three years, to improve the preparation of future teachers in the State of Iowa.

**You are cordially invited to send your Education faculty to a Teacher Education Quality Enhancement Cross Articulation workshop on Monday February 19, 2007. The workshop will be held at the University of Northern Iowa's Multi Culture Center in Maucker Union, Room 109, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., (with Feb 26th as make-up day in case of bad weather). The workshop is free. A light lunch and mileage reimbursement will be provided by grant funds for those who submit registration information by January 12, 2007. Those registering after this date are most welcome and encouraged to attend, but the Iowa Department of Education cannot issue reimbursements not prearranged at least one month to six weeks in advance of the event.**

**To register, please do two things: 1) ask one person from each college to act as a liaison with our committee and to turn in his/her name as communications liaison, and 2) send in the names of faculty, their addresses, phone numbers and Social Security numbers who will attend to Kathleen Van Steenhuyse at [kvanste@kirkwood.edu](mailto:kvanste@kirkwood.edu) by Jan. 12th at 5:00 p.m. We need this information to comply with the Iowa Department of Education's regulations for grant fund reimbursement.**

**The Grant has identified several areas for consideration to improve Teacher Education Preparation. The Cross Articulation Team's part is to work on activities to reach the overall goal of improvement of articulation and transfer between and among community colleges, private colleges and Regents Universities in Teacher Education Preparation Programs. Many of the four-year institutions in the State of Iowa desire to partner with community colleges or with each other in achieving this same goal. But in order to become strong partners, the community colleges and four year institutions have curriculum and transfer degree planning work to accomplish together.**

**Community Colleges are partners with private colleges and Regent Universities in this grant because of their recent nationally recognized significant role in the teacher education process:**

**1) Community colleges have programs or at least some courses in Education Careers, Special Education, or Early Childhood Education that transfer to four-year**

**institutions; 2) over 50% of elementary education teachers nationwide get their content preparation in community colleges when they take their first two years of General Education course work.**

**Faculty should bring their course syllabi, program materials, college catalogues, and, if they wish, even textbooks. Interested administrators are also welcome to attend this workshop and participate in all the discussions.**

**The Cross Articulation Work Team will facilitate sessions to work through the following agenda items that day:**

- 1) Explain the activities of our part of the grant;**
- 2) Provide an opportunity for Barry Wilson, UNI, to explain the RFP opportunity for funding for assessment system development or upgrades;**
- 3) Offer opportunities for faculty and two and four-year institutions to compare and discuss their learner outcomes and performance indicators; document how they have infused INTASC standards and/or NAEYC standards throughout the curriculum and how they propose to assess them; (these areas of emphasis for discussion include: elementary, secondary, special education and early childhood;**
- 4) Offer their expertise in facilitating a discussion of a proposal for a model for an Associate of Arts in Teaching degree;**
- 5) Discuss a plan for opening a dialogue between Arts & Sciences faculty and Education faculty about how to better prepare education candidates to become "highly qualified" and "highly effective."**

**It is important that private colleges, Regents' Universities, and community colleges really send their content experts and that all colleges who have students engaging in teacher education preparation in elementary, secondary, special education or early childhood education participate and lend their expertise to this work.**

This workshop will lead to a second workshop in 2007 to work with four-year institutions and the Iowa Department of Education on further agenda items. The tentative date is:

**June 11th, 2007 location TBA.**

It is hoped that as many faculty as possible and interested administrators who work with Teacher Education Preparation will attend these meetings. We are intending to improve transfer and articulation among two-year colleges, and between two and four-year institutions and between four-year and four-year institutions by strengthening the working relationships among all of these partners and with the Iowa Department of Education.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this effort.

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